

BY CHARLES T. CONGDON.

In 1792 the peculiar system of taxation in Boston drove the father of Mr. Breck to Philadelphia. He complains that the inhabitants were rated for watchmen where there were no watchmen, for lighting streets where there were no lamps, for municipal regulations in general where there was an almost entire absence of police. This being done, they put down under the head of "Faculty" as much as they pleased, "guessing this man to be worth so much."

salut fish, tarts and molasses." Again, when the conductor had bowed out, "Make room for the ladies!" he saw to his horror twelve bouncing factory girls enter, sucking lemons and eating green apple. Upon this he says with silver gray gravity: "There is certainly a growing neglect of manners and of subordination to the laws, a democratic familiarity and a tendency to level all distinctions. The rich and the poor, the educated and the ignorant, the polite and the vulgar, all herd together in the modern improvement in travelling. The consequence is complete amalgamation. Master and servant sleep heads and points on the cabin floor of the steamer, feed at the same table, sit in the same other lap, as it were, on the cars; and all this for the sake of doing very uncomfortably in two days what would be done delightfully in eight or ten days. Poor Mr. Breck! What would he have said to one of our cars, surface or steam, coming up the Third avenue about six o'clock in the evening.

The present day is not perhaps to be censured for its exceeding good opinion of itself and its own ways, manners and devices. In this respect, all its predecessors, back even to the days of the flood, have been like it. Individually, as our beard grow white, we look longingly back to the seasons of youth, and are sure something of the beauty and grace of that time has gone out of the world. Its manners have changed, it is for the worse. If the style of books has been altered, we see in it the degradation of literature. If politics have assumed new phases, and public men exhibit new characteristics, we doubt the utility of the first and the integrity of the last. We reverse the old domestic

A BALLAD

EDMUND CLARENCE STEGALL.

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JOHN THURMS WAS FRIGHTENED.

mother were more than bait distracted; but Tom, a man of energy and shrewd sense, succeeded in tracking his child to a village far south. Accompanied by a carbuncle, he discovered his son in a loft, and rescued him only just in time from an awful fate. He was about to be murdered, and the altar had been erected on which the victim's blood would be shed. He was rescued in time to be insured his murderer's prize in the lottery; for a smithy had recommended for this purpose the sacrifice of a fair and rosy child. The ghastly deed was prevented, but for that end he did not know. The priest exclaimed; the woman was put in prison, where she shortly died. She had neither a bad character, and the dreadful guilt she bore was not hers. The priest, however, was not so mad; his madness was the fascination of the lottery is said to bring upon its victims. Perhaps it is fair to add that this happened many years ago.

### PRICES IN THE MARKETS.

cents a quart; bleached dandelion for salads is 2 cents, and in good demand by French eaters. Sorrel is 30 cents a peck. A few tomatoes from

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tute of all others. Skunk-skins are largely used by furriers, and beautiful skins they are, and the animal is capable of being domesticated, as it never attacks the domestic animal when in danger.

**HEADS AND HAIR.**  
*From The London Standard.*  
Scotland still takes hair a size larger than England, and the manufacturing towns a size smaller than the rural districts. In the former, no doubt it is true, the biggest heads are the most numerous; but the heaviest brains contain most of the raw material of intellect. The brain of the average European man weighs from forty-nine to fifty ounces, that of the female being from forty to forty-five. Since the brain is no test of quality, and the variation is not noticeable in the weight of the brains of entire men, the brain of Cuvier weighed sixty-four and half ounces, that of Agassiz sixty-three, that of Spurzheim fifty and a half, and that of the celebrated physician, fifty-seven ounces. It is also undoubtedly true that the skill capacity bears a direct ratio to the mental grade of any race, and that among savages there is less difference between the brains of the civilized and the uncivilized than among civilized nations. On the other hand, while cases are on record in which the brains of idiots weighed only eight and a half ounces, there are other instances which could be cited in which the cerebrum

Lately Dore has had a craze for sculpture, and all the great bronze foundries are anxious to buy his models. The colossal vase, The Epopee of Bacchus

detectives called to them in French or German when they had taken their tickets, and the Englishmen and Poles gathered down a platform where a special train was waiting. None were admitted to this train but those who were passed through the gate by detectives, and the sorting was so well managed that no one suspected anything. A collection of London pickpockets was drafted along with the foreigners, and also a number of people who seemed to the police to look "suspicious," though in some cases they were really innocent. The local police, the foreigners who had only been picked off owing to the strangeness of their attire or language. When the special train was quite full it started off at express speed for Chatham. The disguise of the passengers had been so good, so beyond the imagination that no suspicion may be imagined, but none of them appear to have suspected that they were victims of a hoax. Profuse apologies were made to them for a mistake due to they were assured, that the confusion in the railway station was an exceptional case, and that they were sent back to London free of cost. But by the time they reached town the fete at the Crystal Palace was over, and the Caesar had departed in peace.

## THE CZAR IN ENGLA

called to them in French or German and had taken their tickets," Crystal Palace said. "The train was then ordered to stop at a station where a special train was waiting to admit to this train but those who did not get through the gate by detectives, and who are so well known to the police, were not admitted. Those suspecting nothing. A roll London pickpockets was drafted along with foreigners, and also a number of people who had been picked up by the police to look "suspicious." The foreigners who had only been picked up for the strangeness of their attire or language were taken to a special train which started at Crystal Palace. The detectives searched for Chubb, but the disguise was so good that they could not find him. They were then to be imagined, but none of them appear to be detected that they were victims of a hoax. Prisoners were made to them for a mistake due to the confusion in the train. The train was then ordered to stop, and they were sent back free of cost. But by the time they were sent back to the Crystal Palace was the time that the train was ordered to stop, and the train was ordered to stop in peace.